

Israel seals off commando's home

TEL AVIV, June 11 (Agencies) -- Israeli security forces today sealed off the home of a suspected Arab commando in the occupied West Bank of Jordan, the army spokesman announced. The announcement said troops entered the village of Jalameh, 80 kilometres north of Jerusalem, before dawn to board up a house where 26-year-old Assad Tawfik Sha'aban lived. The army said Mr. Sha'aban was suspected of placing a bomb aboard an Israeli intercity bus last April. The explosive was discovered and dismantled before it could explode. The army would not say whether Mr. Sha'aban had been charged with any crime. To deter West Bank Arabs from carrying out "subotage" against Israel, security forces often destroyed houses of suspected terrorists. In recent months the practice of boarding up houses, rendering them uninhabitable, has become more common.

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To enable UNIFIL to function Waldheim urges Israel to change its attitude

UNITED NATIONS, June 11 (Agencies) -- Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim warned today that the U.N. peace force in southern Lebanon, UNIFIL, could not continue to function without certain essential conditions being fulfilled.

Recommending to the Security Council a six-month extension of the force's mandate, which expires on June 19, he said in a written report that a change in the attitude of the Israeli authorities was one prerequisite.

Cessation of the harassment of UNIFIL personnel and civilians in the area by the right-wing Lebanese militia which has Israeli support was another.

The continued over-all co-operation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was yet another essential condition of the effective discharge of UNIFIL's duties, Dr. Waldheim went on.

But perhaps the most immediate need was to create an adequate security zone around UNIFIL headquarters in Naqura, he said. The headquarters came under heavy militia fire on March 29 and again on April 18-19.

The U.N. force was sent to southern Lebanon in March 1978 to oversee the withdrawal of Israeli troops who had invaded the area. At latest count there were about 5,800 U.N. troops on duty there. The largest contingent is from the Netherlands (800 infantrymen), followed by Nigeria (776), Fiji (656), and Norway (653).

When UNIFIL's mandate was last up for renewal, France objected to a six-month extension, and this was trimmed to five months. Today, Dr. Waldheim said he was aware there might be reservations about the six month period he again proposed, but he believed his recommendation was realistic.

Reviewing the period since Jan. 13, he said the most significant development was the deployment of a Lebanese army battalion in the UNIFIL area of operation in mid-April and an increase of Lebanese civilian administrative personnel in southern Lebanon.

These certainly represented important steps towards the restoration of the Lebanese government's authority and sovereignty in southern Lebanon, which was one of the most important objectives of its mandate, he said.

"I regret to say," Dr. Waldheim continued, "that in spite of the efforts of succeeding presidents of the Security Council, the secretary-general, various governments in a position to bring their influence to bear, the chief co-ordinator of United Nations peace-keeping missions and the Force commander, a stalemate has persisted since mid-April."

Continuing difficulties were encountered in securing the further deployment of UNIFIL into its full area of operation and the situation was aggravated by conditions of heightened tension in the area, the secretary-general said.

The unco-operative attitude of the militia -- he called them "de facto forces" -- persisted, and all too often took the form of threats and harassment against UNIFIL and the civilian population, he said.

"Continued representations to the Israeli authorities have as yet failed to achieve the change of position required for a significant improvement in the deployment of UNIFIL," Dr. Waldheim added.

He expressed his deep concern not only to the continued opposition to the full carrying out of the UNIFIL mandate, but also at the "forceful manifestations of that opposition and the risks which such manifestations constitute to the lives and security both for the civilian population in the area and of the personnel of UNIFIL."

Dr. Waldheim said he was very much aware that the situation in southern Lebanon was closely related to that in the rest of the country, and that the U.N. had an obligation to give very high priority to helping the Lebanese government in its efforts to restore its authority and sovereignty in the area.

King Hussein, Giscard hold 'frank, comprehensive' talks



PARIS, June 11 (Agencies) -- His Majesty King Hussein discussed with French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing here today Franco-Jordanian relations and the Middle East situation. The talks were held during a working lunch given by the French President and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing in honour of King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor, who are currently on a private visit to France. King Hussein told reporters after the Elysee Palace meeting that his talks with the French president were characterised by frankness and comprehension of all problems of concern to Jordan and France. The talks covered the principles on which a comprehensive Middle East settlement, acceptable to all parties, should be based. His

Majesty said, adding that there was agreement between Jordan and France on these principles. He reiterated Jordan's demands for a complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands and the return of Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty. He said these constituted the basis for a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. The Palestinian people should be able to participate directly in the peace talks and should be recognised as a party and full partner in the negotiations for peace. King Hussein said. He added there can be no real peace unless the Palestinians enjoyed their legitimate national rights, particularly the right to self-determination. (AP wirephoto)

Egypt, Israel, U.S. set up committee to draft procedures for autonomy talks

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, June 11 (R) -- Egypt, Israel and the United States tonight set up a three-member committee to draft final procedures for Palestinian autonomy negotiations to be presented to a full session tomorrow. The decision was announced after a two-hour closed-door session.

Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil said after the session: "We hope to conclude the procedural matters tomorrow."

Asked whether there were differences, Dr. Khalil said there

were but "we hope to reach agreement by tomorrow."

The head of the U.S. delegation to the talks, James Leonard, said: "I am pleased about the tone of the talks, that have been conducted in a frank and cordial manner."

The three-man committee includes Meir Rosin, legal adviser to the Israeli foreign ministry and Ehab Wahba, a counsellor at the Egyptian foreign ministry. The Americans were yet to appoint their delegate.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali, told reporters the first closed session was devoted to debates on technical questions such as the creation of a special secretariat, the exact location of future talks, and whether the minutes of the meetings should be recorded.

Earlier today, Israel rebuked Egypt for a press attack on Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin which it said could harm the negotiations.

Deadlock meets talks on release of Libyan militia from Uganda

DAR ES SALAAM, June 11 (R) -- Negotiations over the release of 200 Libyan militiamen captured by Tanzanian forces and Ugandan rebels in the recent Uganda war have reached deadlock, a senior diplomatic source said today.

The envoy told Reuters the talks had stalled because Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi would not agree to Ugandan and Tanzanian conditions for the men's repatriation.

Uganda, Tanzania and the Libyan Jamahiriya have been negotiating on their future through the offices of a third country, the envoy said. The prisoners

have been divided into small groups and held at various jails in Uganda and Tanzania.

The sources declined to specify what demands had been made as the price of the militiamen's release, but there have been unconfirmed reports that the new Ugandan government of President Yusufu Lule has asked for the return of Amin to face murder charges. Tanzania is reported to have demanded Libya pay a large sum in compensation for Tanzanian losses in the war.

"Qadhafi's attitude is that the Tanzanians may feed the prisoners or they may shoot them but he will not entertain any demands

or conditions over their release," the envoy said.

The Libyans arrived in Uganda in March in C-130 transport planes to work on Kampala's defences as the joint Tanzanian-Ugandan force pressed towards the capital. About 1,000 were evacuated shortly before Kampala fell on April 11 one of the C-130s was hit by Tanzanian artillery fire before it could take off from Entebbe airport. Meanwhile in Kampala, Bab Aftles, English-born aide to deposed dictator Idi Amin, was brought to court in handcuffs today to be charged with murder.

The 55-year-old Aftles, extradited from Kenya on Saturday, was charged with four others still at large with murdering a fisherman, Pasco Mikasa, in March last year. He was remanded in custody for two weeks.

The former presidential aide was the first senior official of fugitive Field Marshal Amin's military regime to be returned to Uganda to face criminal charges.

A Nairobi magistrate will tomorrow start dealing with extradition warrants for 45 Ugandans held in Kenya. They include Lt. Col. Farouk Minawa, former Interior Minister and head of the feared State Research Bureau (secret police), and Brig. Isaac Mulyamungu, one of Amin's closest associates during his eight year rule.

Aftles, formerly an honorary Ugandan army major, appeared in court in Nairobi last Friday and said he wanted a lawyer and wished to appeal against his extradition. He was put on an aircraft for Entebbe at dawn the next day.

Aftles, who was born in Ashford, Kent, took out Ugandan citizenship several years ago. He fled across Lake Victoria to Kenya in a canoe on April 10, the day before Tanzanian and Ugandan exile forces captured Kampala.

Financial rescue operation Turkey devalues lira

ANKARA, June 11 (R) -- Turkey tonight announced an effective 43 per cent devaluation of the Turkish lira

against the dollar, after being urged to take such action by western industrial countries.

Following a marathon nine-hour cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said the new value of the lira would be 47.10 to the dollar from tomorrow, except for special cases. The rate until today was 26.50 to the dollar.

Under a new "multiple rate system", special cases would be Turkey's crucial oil and fertiliser imports and agricultural exports, he said. The rate for these transactions would be 35 lira to the dollar -- an effective devaluation of 24 per cent.

The big industrial nations are backing a financial rescue operation for the troubled Turkish economy, and had called for devaluation as part of a stabilisation programme.

As the exchange value of the Turkish lira has long been pegged to the dollar, Mr. Ecevit referred only to new

dollar rates. Lira values of other western currencies will, as always, be worked out with reference to their values against the dollar and cross-rate differentials.

The move was seen as a compromise between Turkey and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) -- which has been urging the Turks for months to devalue if they want fresh IMF credits and other western aid.

Talks between Turkey and the IMF have been going on in Paris for nearly two weeks. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) announced urgent cash aid of \$1.45 billion for Turkey at the end of last month but made it conditional on a Turkish-IMF accord.

Mr. Ecevit, a Social Democrat, and himself a staunch

nationalist, had been under strong pressure from right-wing opposition parties who resented outside interference. He had repeatedly refused IMF demands for a devaluation.

The multiple rate or two-tier system was seen as a face-saving way for his government to accept what amounts to a devaluation.

In an earlier compromise with the IMF last April, and to gain badly-needed foreign currency, the government introduced a temporary multiple rate system under which foreign tourists and Turkish workers abroad were given preferential exchange rates for hard currency.

The maximum lira-dollar rate announced then was 47 to one, which had been roughly the black market rate.

General strike paralyses Nablus

TEL AVIV, June 11 (Agencies) -- The occupied West Bank city of Nablus was paralysed yesterday due to a general strike in protest against an Israeli decision to establish a new settlement on a neighbouring hill.

All shops were reported closed and people remained indoors, leaving the streets to roving Israeli patrol cars. Later the Israelis forced the shopkeepers to open their shops, according to eyewitnesses.

President Carter's National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski said Sunday that the establishment of the settlement at Elon Moreh had "exacerbated" relations between Arabs and Jews, and could "contribute to a reversal" of the momentum for peace in the Middle East.

Interviewed on the ABC-TV programme "Issues and Answers" in Washington, Dr. Brzezinski said he was "very encouraged" that "a large number of Israelis" had protested against the establishment of Elon Moreh.

He indicated that the United States rejected Israel's contention that the Elon Moreh settlement was vital on security grounds. "This particular settlement is built on private land in an Arab-populated area and distant from actual security zones. It is therefore difficult to justify in security terms," he said.

He added: "The basic issue which everyone has to ponder very seriously is how one would establish an enduring relationship of peace between Arabs and Jews. We are concerned about these settlements, and particularly about this one, exacerbating a very painful relationship which is just beginning to be accommodated."

Dr. Brzezinski said the United States still held out the hope that Palestinian Arabs could be persuaded to join in the present Egyptian-Israeli talks on autonomy in the occupied territories.

"Our hope is that the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations can now gain momentum and begin to engage the Palestinians in a discussion of their own future, and we are going to be encouraging the parties to move in that direction," he said.

He added his view that Arabs and Israelis would have to undergo a "fundamental change" in their attitudes toward each other if peace was to be achieved.

Today, Israeli newspapers criticised the establishment last week of the new Jewish settlement of Elon Moreh.

The influential independent daily Haaretz said in an editorial: "It would be difficult to describe a more damaging act to Israel than the site, the timing and the circumstances of the establishment of Elon Moreh."

"It appeared to be primarily to serve Israel's enemies."

"The entire operation was organised under pressure from the Gush Emonim (Ultra-nationalist Faith Bloc) and implemented by the true ruler of the occupied territories -- the Minister of Agriculture (Ariel Sharon)."

The Trades Union Federation daily Davar said the establishment of more such settlements could undermine the Israel-Egypt peace agreement.

"Israel would find itself in the course of time without peace and without territories," Davar said.

Al Hamishmar, organ of the left-wing Mapam faction of the Labour Alliance, said: "A call for the immediate end of settlement activities on the West Bank is worthy of the support of the majority in the country."

Last night, bulldozers again began churning up Arab-owned land for the Israeli settlement.

Peace Now demonstrators had blocked progress on the site since Saturday, but were persuaded by Defence Minister Ezer Weizman to leave the area after their rally.

Within hours Gush Emonim settlers were bulldozing around through a green, Arab-owned corn field. The 25 dunum area of land for the road had been "requisitioned" earlier in the day. A total of about 1,000 dunums of privately owned Arab land will be taken for the new settlement. Israel offers nominal payment for the land but the owners usually refuse to accept it. Arab landowners looked on Sunday night as the Peace Now demonstrators gave up their vigil and the bulldozers and earth moving equipment moved in. One Arab farmer, Mr. Mohammad Fathi Duweikat, 45, said he would rather die than sell his 23-dunum wheat field. "Money goes with the wind but land remains," he said. Mr. Hafez Suleiman Duweikat, 50, said he owns a 12-dunum olive orchard. "If they take our land we're considered dead," he said. Zionist organisations have allocated \$2.17 million for building 300 housing units at Elon Moreh.

The Israeli government started building the settlement last Thursday and some 4,000 members of the Israeli Peace Now movement were reported to have staged a demonstration in protest against the new settlement.

According to reports, Israeli squatters set up 40 tents and three prefabricated houses on the hill, and Israeli government sources said some 70 Israeli families are expected to be housed at the new settlement over the next two months.

In another development, Nablus Mayor Basam Shak'a has been prevented by the Israeli authorities from speaking a press conference but he told Reuters that all mayors of the West Bank have been barred from travelling abroad, including trips to collect funds for municipality projects in the West Bank.



Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev (left) shakes hands with Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai upon the latter's arrival in Moscow Monday. Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin (centre) and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko (far left) were also present at Vnukovo Airport to welcome the Indian visitor who is on a European tour. He will also visit Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. Mr. Desai opened Kremlin talks later with Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Kosygin. (AP wirephoto)

Right-wing dominates Euro-election, Socialists get largest single share

BRUSSELS, June 11 (Agencies) -- The Socialists today looked set to become the largest single group in the first directly-elected European Parliament but they will be heavily outnumbered by right-wingers. Computer forecasts showed that the Socialists would have only 111 of the 410 seats in the Consultative Assembly of the nine-nation European Economic Community.

The Christian Democrats would win 106 and the British and Danish Conservatives 63, according to the forecasts by the European Broadcasting Union. In the old assembly, appointed by national parliaments, the Socialists had one third of the 198 seats.

The forecasts showed the Communists would win 44 seats and the mainly Gaullist Progressive Democratic group 23, leaving the balance still tipped to the right.

In the centre will be some 40 Liberals, according to the forecasts. But this group also contains parties likely to vote with the right, such as the French Giscardians.

Only about 53.2 per cent of the EEC's 180 million voters went to the polls which were held in France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg yesterday and in Britain, the Netherlands, Ireland and Denmark last Thursday.

Socialists, many of them opposed to the Common Market, lost ground in several countries. Emilio Colombo, Italian president of the outgoing European Parliament, said the overall results showed voters had rewarded parties which had always fought for a United Europe.

"But the new parliament will have to face the declared hostility of part, albeit a minority, of our populations," he said.

In West Germany, where the final results were announced early today, the Christian Democrats polled more than the combined votes for the two parties in the ruling Bonn coalition led by Chancellor

Helmut Schmidt, the Social Democrats and Free Democrats (liberal).

But as in Britain, a low turnout in the world's first international elections meant the poll had little significance over national politics. Less than two thirds of West German electors voted and under a third of Britons thought it worth taking part.

British Labour Party officials have said many of their supporters boycotted the poll in protest against EEC membership.

The final results in Belgium gave the Social Christians of the popular former prime minister, Leo Tindemans, 10 of the 24 seats compared to only seven for the Socialists.

Danes gave the largest number of seats to a group called the People's Anti-EEC Party, which won four of the 16 Danish Euroseats.

In the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the right-wing Social Christians scored a double victory by taking three of the country's six Euroseats after winning national elections the same day.

In France, the Gaullist Party came last in its worst setback at the polls in more than 20 years. With all but a few results in from overseas territories, Health Minister Simone Veil, heading the list tacitly backed by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, easily topped the poll.

Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac came under immediate criticism from within his party for his aggressive and strongly nationalistic campaign.

Final results gave Britain's Conservative Party 60 seats, making it the largest single national party in the new parliament which meets in the French city of Strasbourg on July 17. The British Labour Party won 17 of the 81 seats allotted to the United Kingdom.

In Italy, the Christian Democrats took 30 of the 81 seats, the Communists 24 and Socialist parties 13.



Jewish settlers go about their business of turning Arab-owned land near Nablus, the occupied West Bank's most populated Arab town, into the new settlement of Elon Moreh.

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Only a glimmer

DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI'S statement on Sunday about the new Israeli settlement at Elon Moreh is significant not only because it avoids the usual State Department diplomatic niceties which normally sugar-coat any American criticisms of Israeli policies. It also reveals a glimmer of understanding about the monumental struggle which could ensue from this, the latest and most provocative manifestation of Israeli arrogance, defiance and callousness.

After noting that Elon Moreh is being built on appropriated private Arab land, has no security value to the Israelis and contradicts the supposed "peace process" that is going on in the region, Dr. Brzezinski comes to the crux of the matter: "The basic issue which everyone has to ponder very seriously is how one would establish an enduring relationship of peace between Arabs and Jews. We are concerned about these settlements and particularly about the one, exacerbating a very painful relationship which is just beginning to be accommodated."

It is regrettable that President Carter's national security adviser did not go on from there to the only logical conclusion which can be drawn from his characterisation of the problem presented by Elon Moreh: that it is Israel which is the real threat to peace -- through whatever process that peace is to be achieved -- in the Middle East.

It is not enough just to regret Elon Moreh as a setback to the momentum of the Camp David process; the U.S. must know by now -- indeed, it should have known before launching this process -- that Israel's aim has never been to embark on a real search for peace, but rather to secure, through the isolation and effective demilitarisation of Egypt, a base of life and new security guarantees for the total, final Zionist domination and colonisation of the land of Israel.

That is why every apparent Israeli "concession" on the Egyptian front -- which are, of course, not concessions at all, since the separate agreement with Egypt gives Israel precisely the additional security it needs to carry out its other ambitions -- has been accompanied, right the way through the Camp David process, by new settlements in the West Bank and new measures of oppression, humiliation and subjugation of its Arab inhabitants. Now, this deliberate, premeditated has been capped with the Israeli cabinet's official authorisation -- over the objections of some of its members and despite reservations even from the World Zionist Organisation which is supposed to implement the settlement policy -- of the Elon Moreh implantation.

So, Dr. Brzezinski's somewhat encouraging statement notwithstanding, Washington should further broaden its appraisal of Israel's settlement policy, to view it not merely as a momentary difficulty which must be overcome if Palestinian Arabs are ever to be induced into the negotiations on their future, but as a deliberate device by which Israel expects to remain forever, with American backing, an expansionist occupying power whose actions are beyond the reach of international law and morality.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

COMMENTING ON Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Yadin's recent visit to Cairo to promote the normalisation of relations with the Egyptian regime, AL RAY Monday says that upon reviewing recent Israeli moves, its settlement policy, and the statements of Israeli leaders, one cannot but realise that Israel is merely trying to humiliate the Egyptian leaders.

The only Egyptian reaction to the Israeli actions, the paper says, has been in the form of complaints submitted by President Sadat to the U.S.-Israeli delegation which recently visited Cairo, and other complaints submitted by the Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali to the Israeli deputy prime minister.

The paper further lashes out at the Egyptian prime minister for slinging mud at other Arab leaders in his statements published recently by a Lebanese paper. These statements, the paper adds, come at a time when Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is stressing that Egypt's role in the Arab-Israeli conflict is over.

Although Israel is trying to humiliate Egypt with a view to making it recognise that its role in the Arab World is over, Egypt is still nurturing illusions that its diplomacy is serving the Arab cause, the paper concludes.

AL DESTOUR says that while the Security Council is preparing to resume discussion of the Lebanese complaint against Israel, Israel is pressing forward with its plans to depopulate the south of Lebanon without regard to the presence of the United Nations force there.

Israel is trying to push the United Nations Interim Force in South Lebanon out so as to enable the Saad Haddad statelet to reach the Litani River, thus realising Israel's old dream of "swallowing up the river," the paper says.

Had it not been for the "fluid" U.S. position, Israel would not have so flagrantly challenged the United Nations, the paper adds.

For the United States to merely express its concern over what is going on in South Lebanon does not solve the problem of the Lebanese nor does it stop the massacres to which the Arabs are being subjected, the paper continues.

This concern on the part of the United States, the paper goes on, will not exempt Washington from responsibility vis-a-vis the Israeli aggressions. Everybody knows that it is the United States which is providing the Israelis with weapons to murder the Arabs and members of the U.N. force in South Lebanon, the paper adds.

Calling on the United States to condemn Israel as an aggressor, the paper wonders what the U.S. position at the next Security Council session will be.

The paper asks whether the United States will resort to generalities, or will it adopt a more serious stand against Israel?

France grants 300 million franc telecoms credit

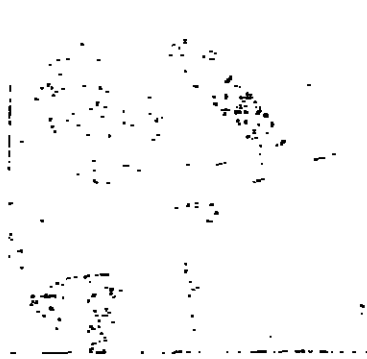
AMMAN, June 11 (UNA) -- The French government has agreed to grant Jordan a 300 million franc credit to finance a number of Jordanian telecommunications projects. Director General of the Telecommunications Corporation Mohammad Shahed Ismail said here yesterday. He said the projects, to be carried out in Amman and Irbid, will employ the most up-to-date French technology and industrial techniques.

Mr. Ismail was speaking upon his return to Amman at the end of a five-day visit to France he made as a member of the four-man team that negotiated the long-term loan for the Jordanian projects. The team was led by the President of the National Planning Council, Dr. Hanna Odch.

Central banks technical committee meets

AMMAN, June 11 (UNA) -- The technical committee of the governors of Arab central banks will start its meetings tomorrow to discuss means of developing Arab financial markets.

The committee, which meets here for three days, will submit a report on this subject to the council of Arab central banks which convenes in Tripoli in August.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran (center) with the delegation that accompanied him to the Arab League in Beirut. From left to right: Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul



Qatari Minister of Education Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Hamad Al Thani receives the Kawkab medal from His Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday.

Qatari minister donates JD 100,000 for Karak teachers training centre

AMMAN, June 11 (JNA) -- Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the visiting Qatari Minister of Education, Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Hamad Al Thani, discussed at a meeting here today Jordanian-Qatari cooperation in educational fields and ways of promoting ties between the two countries.

It was announced after the meeting that Sheikh Mohammad made a donation to the Jordanian

government of JD 100,000 to help finance the cost of constructing the new teachers training centre in Karak. The centre, expected to cost JD 490,000, will be able to accommodate some 400 men and women teachers.

Earlier in the day, the Qatari minister visited the Polytechnic School in Amman, the King Hussein Medical Centre and the University of Jordan.

Sheikh Mohammad, after arriving for a four-day visit yesterday, was received by His Highness Crown Prince Hassan with whom he discussed educational cooperation between Qatar and Jordan. He also conveyed to the Crown Prince Qatar's need for Jordanian expertise in the economic, social, legal and educational fields.

The Crown Prince promised that Jordan will give due consideration to these requests and will extend all possible help. He also conferred on the Qatari Minister the Jordanian Kawkab medal of the first order.

Also yesterday, Sheikh Mohammad and his Jordanian counterpart, Dr. Abdul Salam Majali, discussed expanding cultural exchange, coordinating educational centres and implementing an educational agreement between the two countries.

Egyptian books, records banned

AMMAN, June 11 (UNA) -- All books and publications issued by the Egyptian public sector are to be banned in Jordan according to a decision by the Director of Press and Publications, Mr. Ahmad Al Utaibi.

Furthermore, all publications and books by Egyptian authors who publicly support and promote the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty as well as all Egyptian musical records, tapes and other artistic productions were banned by the new measure.

Badran: Jordan, Algeria share same views

AMMAN, June 11 (JNA) -- Prime Minister Mudar Badran yesterday described King Hussein's visit to Algeria as successful in the context of bilateral and pan-Arab relations.

Breaking upon his return here after accompanying the King on

his visit to Algeria, Mr. Badran said the two leaders' views on various subjects discussed were identical. The Jordanian delegation viewed Algerian educational, cultural and economic institutions during the visit and held fruitful talks with Algerian officials, the

Prime Minister said. Returning with Mr. Badran were Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim.

U.S. expected to as Israel to reopen Birzeit University

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 11 (Agencies) -- The U.S. State Department is expected to ask top officials of the Israeli government to reopen Birzeit University, which was ordered closed May 2 for "anti-Israeli" activity.

The State Department will very soon urge Israel to reconsider its decision that the university remain closed, the Israeli press today quoted sources close to Arab lobbyists in Washington as saying.

American diplomatic sources in Jerusalem declined to comment on the report. Israeli government officials said no such request had been received.

The closure of the university has aroused considerable public interest in the U.S. The university president, Dr. Hanna Nasir -- who was expelled from the West Bank by Israeli military authorities in 1974 -- recently spoke at the United Nations and held several press conferences in the U.S., calling for the reopening of the university.

The State Department's decision to intervene is believed to be the result of Pro-Arab lobbying and increased American interest in the issue.

In recent statements by Israeli authorities, the government has continued to insist that the university is a "hotbed" of anti-Israel

activity. The officials have indicated that Birzeit will remain closed indefinitely.

Any decision to reopen the university, Israeli military sources insist, would have to be preceded by a promise from the Israeli administration that "hostile activity" on the campus cease and students confine themselves to studies.

Ramallah may be banned from travel abroad

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 11 (Agencies) -- The Israeli military governor for the West Bank has barred Ramallah M. Karim, Khalaf from travel abroad. The order is for an indefinite period of time.

Last month Mayor Kiri attended a Palestine Liberation Organisation meeting in Amsterdam. He then visited USSR without permission of the Israeli military authorities.

Last Monday he participated in a press conference held at Bireh municipality to protest demolition and sealing of a where Palestinians suspect being activists had been living.

PLO condemns UNRWA cuts

BEIRUT, June 11 (R) -- The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) today denounced planned cuts by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) of services provided for Palestinian refugees.

The President of the Higher Political Committee for Palestinians in Lebanon, Tawfiq Safadi, told reporters he had informed the Commissioner General of UNRWA, Mr. Alan Brown, at a meeting last night that Palestinians opposed any cuts.

He said "arbitrary measures" planned by the agency "would deprive 93,000 refugee children of preparatory education, a pretext" of a \$36.5 million UNRWA budget deficit.

UNRWA, originally created the U.N. General Assembly years ago to care for Palestinian displaced when Israel was created, estimated this year that its expenditure would reach \$162.7 million. Its income, from voluntary contributions by U.N. member states, was estimated at \$126.2 million.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition depicting ancient water usages and developing arid areas. The exhibit can be visited during regular hours.

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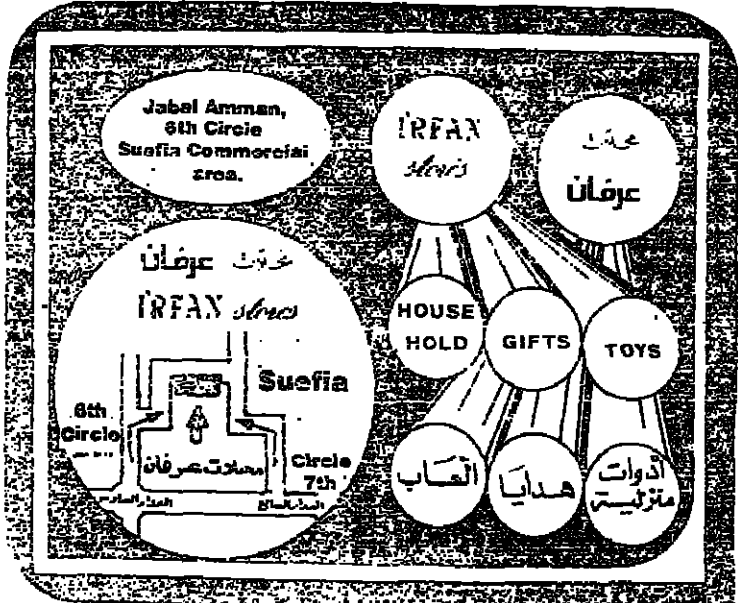
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International team sets out to "reconstruct" old Damascus

By Pat McDonnell
Special to the Jordan Times

DAMASCUS—Field workers have begun research of the ancient sector of Damascus as part of the international campaign to preserve the historical monuments of the world's oldest continuously inhabited city.

Headquarters for the project is the French Institute, where Jean Paul Pasqual, scientific secretary of the institute, is heading the team of field workers made up of architects, B. Maury and I. Kabeyrie, Syrian historian Sarah Atassi and French historian-photographer Philippe Garokhoff.

Mr. Pasqual is ideally suited to head the French contingent of the international team. He is working on a doctoral dissertation dealing with 19th century Damascus and he speaks Arabic like an Arab.

"Ostensibly, our team will be touring the Old City, taking photographs, talking with residents, drawing architectural sketches and making an all out effort to record structures as they are today from a perspective of the city as it was in the past," he said.

"Quite frankly, my interests concern Damascus as it was before the western influences which occurred after 1850," he said.

Mr. Pasqual's dissertation, being prepared for Aix en Provence, is a reconstruction of a Damascus that no longer exists.

"The steam boat, introduced in the 1830s, revolutionised communications," he said. "Thereafter, eight to ten direct lines from Laverpool and Marseille went into operation to Beirut. By 1863, a road was opened from Beirut to Damascus. I feel the souks reflected the first changes; when European goods were introduced customs changed. A simple example is the arrival of the European armchair to replace cushions."

Last year, Mr. Pasqual collaborated on an academic report on 19th century souks, "for an expanding souk represents an expanding city—this is where change first occurred," he said.

"Take, for example, the Souk Bab Al Barid which used to sell only Syrian merchandise. By the 1860s only European fabrics, furniture, lamps, and so on were being sold there. Social commentators of the time loudly complained of Western innovations arriving in Syria via Souk Bab Al Barid. Some souks totally disappeared, such as the Souk Al Harir, a silk market which gave



Mr. Jean Paul Pasqual (left), scientific secretary of the Damascus French Institute, discusses field work to study and map the Old City of Damascus with Mr. Philippe Garokhoff, historian photographer.

way to imported fabrics from the industrialised West."

Another souk to disappear was the slave market. Mr. Pasqual says the actual structure that housed it, most likely a khan, remained, but the sale of merchandise ceased. The slave mart, located in the centre of the city, west of the Umayyad Mosque, went underground after the 1850s. From his research, Mr. Pasqual conjectures the slave trade dealt solely with Circassian women.

As the Ottoman Empire began to lose hold of its colonies—Tunisia and Egypt gained independence in 1882—it made efforts to modernise Damascus as a means of rebuking claims that it was stagnating.

"Damascus was regarded as a critical city. It was from that capital that pilgrims from Turkey, Iraq, Persia, Afghanistan, India and the Maghreb made the final leg of their journey to Mecca. The Ottoman governor of Damascus was personally responsible for provisioning the caravans, not to mention overseeing their safe arrival.

"In political terms, Damascus was crucially important. Therefore the modernisation

attempt—to demonstrate the vitality of the empire—took place here," Mr. Pasqual said.

This was manifested in government buildings being constructed in Marjeh Square, in gas lights being installed on city streets and the construction of the Hijaz Railroad to Mecca and the electric tramway (streetcar system) from Salhiyeh to Meidan.

"One must remember that the world's first electric tram was constructed in 1889 in England. Scarcely 14 years later, Damascus leapt from transportation by donkey cart and on horse back to an electric tram (no traces of which remain today.)

"At the time that the tram was installed, Salhiyeh (now a quarter of Damascus) was a summer resort for wealthy Damascanes, although Dummer, which lies a bit further on the western fringes of the city, probably attracted more summer residences."

Mr. Pasqual justifies his deep interest in reconstructing pre-1850 Damascus on the grounds that by understanding the past one can comprehend present demographics.

"The city always had a definite plan, a certain order. The noisy crafts, such as metal-working, were placed in souks in areas where the noise would not disturb the residential districts.

"I object to claims that the neighbourhoods were segregated. I feel there was a definite 'mix,' that modest dwellings, even hovels, were to be found next to the residences of aristocrats. Granted, some areas might have had a concentrated number of houses belonging to the underprivileged, but I nevertheless maintain Old Damascus was a mixture of rich and poor."

"No municipal authority existed other than the Ottoman governor who was responsible for civil security. I'm trying, for instance, to find out who was in charge of the water supply and sanitation," he said.

"Until the 1830s, the bubonic plague frequently devastated the city; thereafter, cholera was the scourge. Nonetheless, in a heavily populated city the size of Damascus, someone had to be in charge of safeguarding the water supply and for garbage collection."

No doubt Mr. Pasqual's excellent Arabic will be invaluable to the team of researchers who will screen the Old City quarter by quarter. His love of Arab culture comes quite naturally, considering he was born in and grew up (until the age of 10) in Casablanca, Morocco.

His formal training began in 1962 at the Arabic School of Oriental Languages in Paris. In 1969 Mr. Pasqual received a two-year scholarship to the Damascus French Institute to study Arabic. He returned to the Institute in 1975 to assume the position he now occupies. In the interim, he lectured on Islamic history in Beirut at a branch of the University of Lyon.

"You might say I learned conversational Arabic in the souks of Damascus from 1969 to 1971," he said.

The initial report of the research team will be submitted to the Syrian Department of Museums and Antiquities in July when the International Mission to Preserve Old Damascus convenes. To date, the participating nations are Syria, France, West Germany and the United States.



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His Highness Crown Prince Hassan is shown a model of planned port facilities in Aqaba Monday.

Prince Hassan chairs meeting of heads of major companies

AOABA, June 11 (JNA) — Marketing of products, training of personnel and coordination among Jordanian firms producing fertilisers were topics for discussion at a meeting held here today under the chairmanship of His Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Taking part in the meeting were board directors of the Jordan Fertiliser Industries Company, the Arab Potash Company and the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company as well as maritime and overland transport corporations who later accompanied the Crown

Prince on a tour of installations of a factory being built in Aqaba for the production of fertilisers from potash. Nearly 13 per cent of the factory buildings have now been completed and production is expected to begin by mid-1981.

NCC hears report on plan to combat drought

AMMAN, June 11 — The National Consultative Council (NCC) held a two-hour session on Monday under the chairmanship of its president, Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, during which it discussed several motions, and listened to a report by Agriculture Minister Hikmat Al Sakit on the government's policy for dealing with the drought and implementing agricultural and water projects which are part of the five-year plan.

For the second time, however, the NCC decided to postpone discussion of the subject so that council members can study the minister's statement.

Attending the session were Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the ministers.

TODAY'S WEATHER

The warm weather that has hit Jordan for the last few days is expected to cool today. The warm winds coming from India have dissipated and the wind is now coming from the northwest. In Aqaba, there will be northerly winds and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	21	32
Aqaba	25	36
Deserts	21	36
Jordan Valley	23	37

Local News dup...

ed as Jordan's envoy to Chile

—A royal decree issued today approved Mr. Wael Al Mawri as Jordan's ambassador to Chile.

formation minister discusses cooperation

—The visiting Minister of Information of the Republic of Jordan, Mr. Yahya Al Arishi, held talks here today with the Minister of Information, Mr. Moham-

igs to lease plane to Saudia

—The Executive Vice President of Arab Airlines for Saudi Arabia yesterday for talks with the General of Jordan Television, Mr. Moham-

ists aid West Bank branch

—The Jordanian Agronomists Association (JAA) has decided to acquire a share in the professional in Beit Hanina between Ramallah and Jericho. The association also decided to pay JD 400 to its branch in the complex in both towns.

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Sweden, England draw in soccer match

STOCKHOLM, June 11 (R) — Sweden held England to a goalless draw here yesterday, with both teams squandering numerous chances. "We played what we like to call our new control football," said England manager Ron Greenwood. "We gave the Swedes a lot of problems but didn't put the ball in the net." "The English played it all wrong—too many short passes," commented Swedish manager Georg Ericson. "We let the English control the second half and were saved by good goalkeeping."

Both managers praised Swedish goalkeeper Jan Moeller, who stopped two shots from Kevin Keegan in the 76th and 82nd minutes and made a spectacular save from a blast by Phil Thompson in the 74th minute. Breakaways by Sweden in the first half also had English goalkeeper Peter Shilton leaping across the goalmouth. England's best chance came in the 40th minute when Emlyn Hughes took the ball upfield and bounced it off the Swedish crossbar. The match celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Swedish Football Association.

Kent downs Northamptonshire

LONDON, June 11 (R) — Kent joined Somerset at the top of the English Sunday Cricket League yesterday, thanks to a dramatic last ball victory over Northamptonshire. Northamptonshire bowled Kent out for 145, and with one over left were 139 for three in reply. The odds were stacked against Kent until their opponents came unstuck. Kim Yardley and George Sharp took singles of the first five balls but, needing two off the last delivery, Sharp was brilliantly run out by Kent skipper Alan Ealham. Somerset had no problems beating Gloucestershire who made only 134 for six in their 40 overs. Captain Brian Rose steered Somerset to a comfortable eight wickets win with a fine 78 not out.

Yorkshire, who led the table last Sunday, did not have a match yesterday. Glamorgan beat Warwickshire by seven wickets, while West Indian pace bowler Wayne Daniel, grabbed four for 13 to help Middlesex to a six wickets victory over Derbyshire.

German woman breaks track record

KARL-MARX-STADT, East Germany, June 11 (R) — Marita Koch of East Germany yesterday became the first woman to crack the 22 seconds barrier for the 200 metres. Koch demolished her own world track record of 22.03 seconds by clocking 21.71 in an international athletics match against Canada here yesterday. It was the second world record in a day for the Rostock girl who had earlier helped the East German relay squad set a new mark of 42.09 seconds in the 4x100 metres relay. The old record, also held by East Germany, was 42.27.

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

Dunette wins Prix de Diane

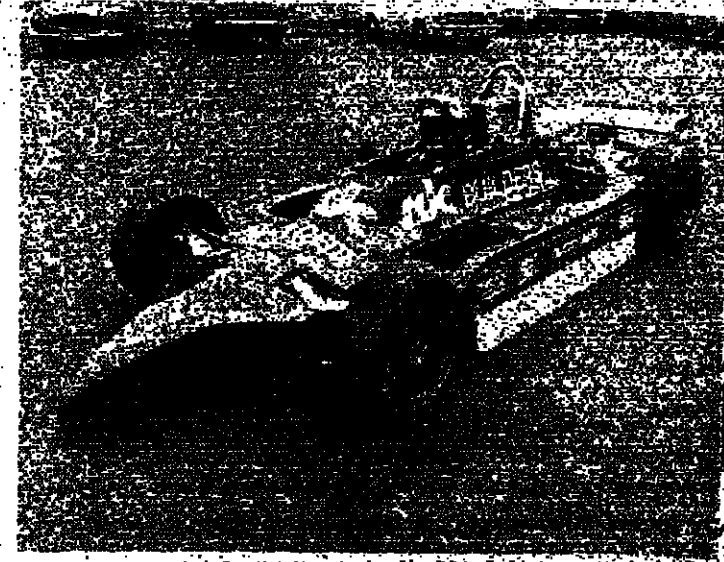
CHANTILLY, France, June 11 (R) — Outsider Dunette ridden by Georges Doleuze, today beat heavily favoured Three Troikas by a nose to win the Prix de Diane, the French Oaks. Dunette, coming on the outside, challenged Three Troikas ridden by Freddy Head in the last furlong of the 2,100 metre race. Three Troika's pacemaker, Sealy, had headed the field until the last bend. Dunette had a good season last year but this season has often been unable to finish the distance at best speeds. Lester Piggott, riding cheerfully, was eighth in a field of 12.

Badminton championships scores

TOKYO, June 11 (AP) — The men's teams of Burma, China and Pakistan scored shutout victories Monday, but Burma barely beat Hong Kong 3-2 in women's play in the first World Cup Badminton Championships in Hangchow, China. Burma's Khin Khin

Aye scored the decisive point with an 11-0, 11-5 victory over Hong Kong's Leung Pik Leun. In men's play, Burma blanked Tanzania, China beat Sri Lanka and Pakistan downed Nepal, all 5-0.

New racing car debut



This new all-British Formula 3 racing car has a hovercraft type 'skirt' — to help it 'hug' the ground, especially on fast corners — a new aerodynamic shape and a new all-British two-litre, 165 hp engine. The car — called Project 1770 — was designed and built by Lola Cars in eastern England, a company that claims to be the world's largest manufacturer of racing cars. The project centres round the use of a new all-British engine, the Titan Chevrolet Vega. Built in St. Neots, eastern England, the all-aluminium, 16-cylinder engine with belt driven twin overhead camshafts will offer a considerable challenge to established power units. The first race for the new car will be in the Vandervell Formula 3 championships in Britain in a few weeks time and it is planned to race on the mainland European circuits later this year. (COI photo)

Finns leading in Scottish rally

AVIEMORE, Scotland, June 11 (R) — Sweden's World Rally Championship leader Bjorn Waldegaard crashed out of the Scottish Motor Rally here yesterday. Waldegaard made a rare mistake on one of the special stages, plunging his Ford Escort down a 17-metre embankment. The Swede was not hurt, but his car was badly damaged. Finnish ace Hannu Mikkola dominated the second day of the four-day rally, despite losing almost two minutes with a puncture. Mikkola's enforced stop allowed fellow Finn Henri Toivonen to close the gap on Mikkola to one minute 22 seconds when the drivers stopped here last night.

French win yachting races

WEYMOUTH, England, June 11 (R) — French yachtsmen took the first three places in the final race of the 470 class and won the class overall at the Olympic Sailing Week here. Daniel Peponnet led the fleet across the line, but Laurent Delage, who was not in the first three, won overall after having two firsts and a second earlier in the week. Another Frenchman, Patrick Haegele, headed the solings; Spain's Antonio Girones won the spinnaker, and Britons Chris Law and Peter Blake took the Finn, and flying Dutchman classes respectively.

Baseball Standings

National League

EAST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Montreal	30	21	.588	—
St. Louis	30	21	.588	—
Pittsburgh	28	24	.538	2½
Philadelphia	30	26	.536	2½
Chicago	24	28	.462	6½
New York	21	31	.404	9½

WEST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	35	25	.583	—
Cincinnati	32	25	.561	1½
San Francisco	28	31	.475	6½
Los Angeles	28	32	.467	7
San Diego	27	34	.423	8½
Atlanta	21	36	.368	12½

Saturday's games

Chicago 5, Los Angeles 3
Cincinnati 7, Montreal 1
San Francisco 6, Pittsburgh 2
Philadelphia 9, Atlanta 3
St. Louis 7, San Diego 4

American League

EAST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	36	21	.632	—
Boston	34	21	.618	1
Milwaukee	32	21	.542	5
New York	31	27	.534	5½
Cleveland	27	28	.491	7
Detroit	25	26	.490	8
Toronto	16	43	.211	21

WEST	W	L	Pct.	GB
California	35	23	.603	—
Kansas City	32	26	.552	3
Minnesota	30	25	.545	3½
Texas	31	26	.540	3½
Chicago	27	29	.482	7
Seattle	23	36	.390	12½
Oakland	10	40	.310	17

Saturday's games

Boston 12, Minnesota 6
Kansas City 9, New York 8, 13 innings
Toronto 5, Oakland 0
Chicago 6, Milwaukee 2
California 9, Detroit 1
Cleveland 4, Seattle 3, 10 innings

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JORDAN

Guerrilla groups join forces in fight for Eritrean independence

BEIRUT, June 11 (R) — The two major guerrilla groups fighting for the independence of Eritrea have decided to pool their resources and step up operations against Ethiopia's troops in the strategic Red Sea province, guerrilla chief Ahmed Nasser said here yesterday.

Mr. Nasser, head of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council (ELF-RC) said the guerrillas had reorganised their forces and were now beginning to push the Ethiopian army on to the defensive.

The guerrilla chief was speaking in an interview with Reuters against the background of reports of heavy fighting.

According to the ELF-RC, the

battles pitted guerrilla forces against Ethiopian troops trying to recapture two villages, Sahderat and Tamarat, which fell to the Eritreans last month.

The Soviet-backed Ethiopian Government last year launched a big offensive which drove the secessionists out of the cities of the province and back into Eritrea's hills and savannahs.

Mr. Nasser said the ELF-RC

and the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front (EPLF) last March decided on close military coordination and agreed to step up operations against Ethiopian troops in Eritrea, estimated at around 90,000 men.

The ELF-RC and the EPLF have often been at odds and previous attempts to unify the two groups have had little success.

But according to Mr. Nasser, joint units have actually started operating in eastern Eritrea and a joint headquarters was coordinating operations.

Since the March meeting of a joint supreme military command grouping the leaders of the two groups, Eritrean forces had wiped out a complete Ethiopian brigade in fighting near the eastern town of Karora and scored a series of other military successes, Mr. Nasser said.

But Mr. Nasser said the guerrillas still hoped for negotiations to end the conflict in Eritrea, which has a 1,000-kilometre coastline with the Red Sea and is of crucial importance to the balance of power in the Horn of Africa.

A year ago, the ELF-RC and the EPLF issued a joint call for direct negotiations with the left-wing military rulers in Addis Ababa.

Ethiopia, bolstered by Soviet arms and confident it could crush the secessionists, replied by launching the biggest offensive in the war.

"We must convince the Ethiopians that it is better to negotiate," Mr. Nasser said.

"They must realise that continued fighting is not to their advantage, and not in the interests of the Ethiopian people."

"War is costly. It impairs development, it brings economic disruption, it weakens destruction. We are still in favour of a peaceful settlement."

But until the Ethiopians agreed to talks, the war in Eritrea would continue, he said.

Thailand plays down Red Cross appeal for Kampuchean refugees

BANGKOK, June 11 (R) — Thailand today went ahead with its operation to send 40,000 Kampuchean refugees to their war-ravaged homeland despite an appeal by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

All the Kampucheans involved arrived in Thailand recently and have not been granted refugee

status by the government, which says it is already overburdened struggling to cope with 200,000 Indochinese refugees.

The president of the Geneva-based ICRC sent an appeal to Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan on Saturday about reports that Thailand was sending the Kampucheans back. ICRC officials in Bangkok said they were deeply concerned about the fate of the refugees because of continued fighting in Kampuchea and the scarcity of food there.

But General Kriangsak asked reporters today: "Why do those, including the International Red Cross who say they think about humanity, not come in to solve our problems?"

A high-ranking government source said today that over 32,700 Kampucheans had so far been persuaded to go back on a voluntary basis. The goal was just over 40,000, he added.

There has been widespread speculation in the West since Moscow announced last week it had accepted a Peking proposal for talks on normalising relations that the move was taken to gain extra leverage in talks with the U.S.

"Such speculative allegations do not withstand criticism," Prada declared in its weekly international review.

"Bluffing in politics or the playing of a 'China card' or any other card in international relations is deeply alien to Soviet diplomacy," the Kremlin newspaper added.

In its response to the Peking proposals, first made in April, the Soviet Union suggested that the two countries hold discussions at the level of deputy foreign ministers in Moscow in the summer.

Since the announcement, the Soviet press has toned down attacks on Peking and Pravda itself carried the first positive news report of a development in China for several years.

Since Hong Kong's refugee camps are packed to capacity, yesterday's arrivals were towed to an anchorage off one of the colony's outlying islands.

Officials reckoned Hong Kong could have at least 100,000 Viet-

namese on its hands by the end of the year. They have been sailing in at the rate of about 1,000 a day for the last ten days.

Hong Kong Governor Sir Murray Maclehoze leaves for London tomorrow for talks on the rapidly worsening situation.

Sir Murray will be on the same plane as 115 Vietnamese, rescued at sea by the British freighter Sibonga and due to be resettled in Britain.

A first group of 96 from the 1,000 Sibonga refugees lies to London today.

Sir Murray will go from London to Washington, where he is expected to press the United States to take more refugees.

The colony has another much bigger, more permanent problem—a flood of illegal immigrants from China. Officials estimate about 1,000 a day slip past border patrols.

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U.S. airlines ordered to inspect engine mountings of all wide-bodied craft

WASHINGTON, June 11 (R) — U.S. aviation authorities have widened their safety net to take in all wide-bodied airliners following the DC-10 crash in Chicago 17 days ago.

In an unprecedented move, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) yesterday ordered U.S. airlines to carry out inspections on the engine mountings of Boeing 747 jumbo jets, Lockheed Tristars and European Airbus. But the order stopped short of directing that the planes should be grounded and an FAA spokesman emphasised that "it's not an emergency thing."

All DC-10s were grounded last week at a cost of millions of dollars to operators and governments around the world after cracks were found in the engine mountings of two U.S.-registered DC-10s.

The latest FAA order did not explain why other wide-bodied aircraft had fallen under suspicion. A spokesman said merely that it was a "sensible precaution." The spokesman said that if no problems were found, the DC-10's rivals would continue to fly without interruption. But the immediate future of the McDonnell Douglas DC-10 remained an open question.

"They (DC-10s) have to stay down until McDonnell Douglas convinces us there is no basic design flaw in the pylon or until it's fixed. They have to prove one or the other," the spokesman said.

In the investigations following the Chicago crash in which 275 people died, attention has focussed on the pylon, the link between the engine and wing.

In Britain, where up to 100 Boeing 747s and Tristars are in service, there was a cautious initial reaction to the FAA order from a civil aviation authority spokesman. Asked if the British would consider ordering similar checks, the spokesman said: "If the FAA come with reasons or evidence we will consider it."

Exile group reports guerrilla victories Afghanistan extends amnesty for refugees

RAWALPINDI, June 11 (R) — Afghanistan has extended the period of general amnesty for Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran from May 28 to July 1. Radio Kabul said yesterday.

Quoting from an official statement, the radio urged the anti-government refugees to return home.

About 100,000 Afghan refugees have crossed over to Pakistan following the take-over in Kabul by President Noor

Mohammad Tarakki's pro-communist government in April last year.

Most of the refugees in exile in Pakistan have rejected Mr. Tarakki's offer of amnesty and pledged that they will return only after the present Afghan government has been toppled.

In a speech reported by the radio, President Tarakki said that 1,500 refugees had returned home to the troubled north-eastern Kunar Province and he hoped that Afghan nationalists "misled by anti-revolution forces" would return home.

Mr. Tarakki also accused Pakistani militia of attacking his country and warned that "international interference in Afghanistan would lead to international problems."

He said his troops had given a "befitting answer" to invaders from Pakistan and most of the saboteurs had been wiped out.

Radio Kabul reported demonstrations in various parts of Afghanistan against the Pakistani attacks but gave no details.

Pakistan has repeatedly rejected Afghan accusations and warned that false propaganda, if continued, would damage peace and stability in the region.

Meanwhile, an Afghan exile group based in Iran said today Muslim guerrillas were besieging the northeastern city of Faizabad, capital of Afghanistan's Badakhshan Province which borders the Soviet Union.

The Islamic Cultural Society of Afghanistan said in a statement there was heavy fighting in a number of other provinces and 15,000 troops had surrendered to the guerrillas who are seeking to overthrow Mr. Tarakki.

The society said rebels had captured four small towns and an important mine near Faizabad, which is reputed to produce the world's best examples of the semi-precious stone lapis lazuli.

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Bank for International Settlements: 'Inflation surge could lead to a major world recession'

BASLE, June 11 (R) — The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said today the current surge in inflation could lead to a major world recession and a renewed bout of currency unrest.

The bank's annual report said present inflation gave little or no cause for optimism, in particular since it was spreading to countries where growth is still slack, and also to some of those strong-currency countries which had hitherto kept prices stable.

The bank said the best scenario for the future was for the American economy, growing rapidly in recent years, to move into a mild recession. This should include an improvement in its balance of payments, it said.

If the U.S. economy overheated, it could lead to restrictive growth policies by economic powers such as West Germany and Japan in order to combat imported inflation. There would

then be a major world recession when the U.S. boom eventually collapsed, the report said.

BIS agreed that U.S. monetary policy has already tightened since last autumn. "But can it be regarded as sufficiently restrictive in an economy where domestic inflation is accelerating?" it asked.

"And can U.S. fiscal policy be considered sufficiently restrictive when at the height of a cyclical boom the government is still running a deficit?"

The report said last year's precipitous decline of the dollar showed the United States was no longer going to pursue a more expansionary policy than the rest of the world. The bank also accused U.S. authorities of underestimating the effect of the dollar depreciation on inflation, and of being misled by indicators of capital and labour-market tightness.

The bank said Western industrial countries must in future coordinate their policies, though it agreed chances of this were dim in the light of past experience.

In recent years, the U.S. has been seeking to reduce unemployment by expansionary policies, while hard-currency countries such as West Germany and Japan have given priority to taming inflation and followed a more restrictive course.

The bank's own opinion on this score was that past experience indicated a need for caution in pursuing expansion. Industrialised countries may have to be content with lower rates of growth than they were accustomed to in the past, it commented.

At the same time, it warned strong-currency countries such as West Germany and Japan that they must be prepared to take up some of the slack in world economic growth resulting from a

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Musician defectors reach U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 11 (R) — Two Soviet music defectors and a woman arrived in San Francisco yesterday in quest of political asylum in the United States, officials said.

The couple, trumpet player Malkin, 43, and Natalia Kovaleva, 42, left the 12 Philharmonic Orchestra, completed a 16-concert tour of Japan and asked the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo for asylum.

The two Russians fled away from reporters and photographers when they arrived, and were driven off quickly by airport security.

Nicaraguan troops clash with guerrillas

MANAGUA, June 11 (R) — Left-wing guerrilla government troops clashed with Nicaraguan army forces yesterday, officials said.

The clashes took place in the northern part of the country, where the guerrillas have been active since the overthrow of the Somoza family in 1978.

The guerrillas were reported to have killed several soldiers and wounded others in the clashes.

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USSR denies plan to play 'China card' at Vienna summit

MOSCOW, June 11 (R) — The Communist Party newspaper Pravda yesterday rejected suggestions that the Soviet Union would attempt to play a "China card" at this week's Vienna summit between Kremlin leader Leonid Brezhnev and President Carter.

There has been widespread speculation in the West since Moscow announced last week it had accepted a Peking proposal for talks on normalising relations that the move was taken to gain extra leverage in talks with the U.S.

"Such speculative allegations do not withstand criticism," Pravda declared in its weekly international review.

"Bluffing in politics or the playing of a 'China card' or any other card in international relations is deeply alien to Soviet diplomacy," the Kremlin newspaper added.

In its response to the Peking proposals, first made in April, the Soviet Union suggested that the two countries hold discussions at the level of deputy foreign ministers in Moscow in the summer.

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